

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-05 SP-02
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O 112353Z AUG 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2848
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

S E C R E T USUN NEW YORK 03177

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PORG, WA, SF
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: APPROACHES ON MILITARY AND POLITICAL
CONCERNS

REF: PRETORIA 4672 AND PREVIOUS

1. POLMIN MET WITH USYG URQUHART LATE AUGUST 11 TO OUT-
LINE THE INTELLIGENCE WE RECEIVED FROM VAN HEERDEN
AUGUST 8 (PRETORIA 4566) AND ASK HIS VIEW AS TO BEST
COURSE OF ACTION BY THE UN AND/OR THE CONTACT GROUP.

2. URQUHART AND HIS STAFF COINCIDENTALLY WERE IN THE
PROCESS OF TRANSMITTING A TELEGRAM TO AHTISAARI IN
NAMIBIA CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF TERRORIST INCIDENTS IN
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RECENT WEEKS WHICH SAG HAD BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF
THE SECRETARIAT THROUGH A LETTER PARALLELING ONE
RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT FROM AMBASSADOR SOLE AUGUST
10. URQUHART IMMEDIATELY DICTATED AN ADDITIONAL PARA
FOR THE CABLE TO AHTISAARI OUTLINING OUR INTELLIGENCE
AND ASKING AHTISAARI'S VIEWS ON ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT
FORESTALL DISRUPTIVE ACTIONS BY EITHER PARTY. URQUHART

ADDED THE SUGGESTION THAT AHTISAARI, IN ADDITION TO HIS PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH RELEVANT PARTIES, MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT CALLING ON ALL PARTIES TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT THROUGHOUT THE COMING DELICATE PERIOD IN THE SPIRIT OF GETTING THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS STARTED. URQUHART NOTED THAT SYG WALDHEIM WILL BE UNAVAILABLE FOR THE NEXT 36 TO 48 HOURS BECAUSE OF HIS INVOLVEMENT IN FORMALITIES ATTENDING THE FUNERAL OF THE POPE.

3. POLMIN ALSO DISCUSSED PRETORIA'S INTELLIGENCE WITH UKUN (COUNSELOR JYJIS-WALKER AND MISOFF). FYJIS-WALKER APPROVED OF OUR ACTION IN BRINGING THIS MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE UN, SINCE THEY FEEL STRONGLY THAT TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE SUCH PROBLEMS NOW MUST BE HANDLED BY THE UN AND NOT BY THE CONTACT GROUP. TO THE SUGGESTION THAT UK WEIGH IN WITH THE ANGOLANS, FYJIS-WALKER WAS UNCERTAIN THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENTLY SENIOR ACCESS IN THE GOA ON SHORT NOTICE. HE ALSO QUESTIONED WHETHER ANGOLA'S RESPONSE WOULD BE LIKELY TO BE HELPFUL. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, TO REPORT OUR INFORMATION AND SEEK LONDON'S VIEWS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AN APPROACH IN LUANDA.

4. FYJIS-WALKER ALSO SUGGESTED THAT EITHER THE UN OR THE CONTACT GROUP MIGHT CONSIDER AN APPROACH TO EXTERNAL SWAPO, WHETHER IN LUSAKA OR WHEREVER NUJOMA CURRENTLY
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RESIDES. HE ALSO WENT ON TO ASK WHETHER CONSIDERATION TO AN APPROACH TO THE FRONT LINE SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN UP BY THE CONTACT GROUP. WE AGREED TO REPORT AND THEN CONSULT FURTHER SATURDAY ON THE BASIS OF COMMENTS FROM OUR MINISTRIES AND, HOPEFULLY, A RESPONSE FROM AHTISAARI TO URQUHART'S CABLE. WELLS

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NNN

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